THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DE 15-302

RESIDENTIAL RENEWABLE ELECTRIC GENERATION INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Modification of Incentive Payment Levels

ORDER OF NOTICE

On August 7, 2015, Commission Staff filed a memorandum recommending certain modifications to the terms and conditions of the residential renewable electric generation facility incentive payment program provided for under RSA 362-F:10, V and established by Commission order (Incentive Program). Staff's proposed modifications are based on the continued broad and growing interest in the Incentive Program and in consideration of assuring that there are available Renewable Energy Fund (REF) funds to support participation in the program. Staff recommended that the Commission reduce the incentive payment from the current level of \$0.75 per watt to \$0.50 per watt and reduce the per system maximum incentive amount from \$3,750.00 to \$2,500.00, or 30% of the total system cost, whichever is less.

The Commission seeks comment on the incentive payment modifications recommended by Staff from various stakeholders, including, but not limited to, prospective applicants, residential energy project developers, equipment installers and vendors, utility representatives, and state and regional experts on the residential renewable energy market. The Commission will hold a hearing on August 28, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. to receive public comment on the proposed modifications. Following the hearing, interested stakeholders will have until September 11, 2015 to provide additional written comments.

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This notice raises, <u>inter alia</u>, issues related to the appropriate level of incentive payments available to support residential renewable electric generation project development, and the efficient and productive use of REF funds to promote such development.

Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

ORDERED, that a public comment hearing on the proposed incentive payment modifications for the residential renewable electric generation facility incentive payment program shall be held on August 28, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that final written comments shall be filed by September 9, 2015; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that comments and suggestions may also be filed by e-mail at executive.director@puc.nh.gov; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that the Executive Director shall notify all persons desiring to file comments or be heard at the hearing by publishing a copy of this Order of Notice, no later than August 18, 2015, in a newspaper with general circulation in the state, with publication to be documented by affidavit filed with the Commission on or before August 28, 2015.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this thirteenth day of August, 2015.

Debra A. Howland Executive Director

Individuals needing assistance or auxiliary communication aids due to sensory impairment or other disability should contact the Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator, NHPUC, 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire 03301-2429; 603-271-2431; TDD Access: Relay N.H. 1-800-735-2964. Notification of the need for assistance should be made one week prior to the scheduled event.